

I thank my colleagues for once again unanimously passing a resolution to recognize the experiences of youth and families in the foster care system and celebrate those who work to improve their lives.

Organizations in Iowa and around the country tirelessly serve kids and families in foster care and the foster parents who open their homes to kids in need.

I salute these organizations and individuals for their year-round efforts to support the kids most in need.

In 2020, there were over 400,000 kids in foster care, including over 4,000 kids in Iowa.

During the pandemic, there was a drop in reports of child abuse, as well as entries into foster care and exits from foster care.

There were the fewest adoptions from foster care since 2016 with 8,000 fewer children being adopted compared to the previous year.

However, Iowa deserves recognition for being one of only nine States to increase adoptions from foster care during 2020.

Permanency for youth in foster care is so important, and I am glad that Iowa continued to make this a priority during the pandemic.

Older youth in foster care and adults who experienced foster care as a child can speak to what worked for them and what didn't work.

These young adults should always have a seat at the table.

When I founded the Senate Caucus on Foster Youth in 2009, the special focus was to hear directly from youth themselves.

Over and over again, I have heard the same thing from kids in foster care: They want a mom and dad. They want a family and a place to call home.

All children, no matter their circumstances, deserve a permanent, loving home and consistent, caring adults in their lives.

We know that just having one caring and consistent adult can meaningfully improve the lives of kids in the long-term.

For some kids, this can be a biological parent who receives the support they need to safely care for their child.

For others, a foster parent, mentor or court-appointed special advocate can be that adult.

My resolution marks May 31 as a particular day to recognize and show appreciation for foster parents.

Congress has worked to expand access to prevention services in the hopes of keeping families out of foster care in the first place.

But in addition to this, it is crucial for foster parents to get the support they need to continue serving kids in their communities.

In Iowa, almost every county has a shortage of trained foster parents who are able to provide a temporary home for kids.

Without volunteer foster parents, kids who cannot remain safely at home

end up sleeping in hotels and in the offices of social workers.

Moving forward, Congress must continue to work to find better solutions and secure better outcomes for youth in foster care.

It is clear that there is no one answer for kids in foster care. Some can be reunified with their families; others are best cared for by adoptive parents or a kinship caregiver.

But the goal should always be the same: to protect kids from neglect and abuse and provide them with love and support.

I thank my colleagues for unanimously passing my resolution honoring May as National Foster Care Month once again and look forward to continuing to work on this issue.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL GENTRY W. BOSWELL

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today, I am honored to recognize the extraordinary service of Brig. Gen. Gentry W. Boswell on the occasion of his retirement. His 31 years of service to our Nation is the reflection of a true and devoted public servant.

General Boswell received his commission in 1991 as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps at Delta State University, and he also earned a master of aeronautical science at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. In addition, General Boswell studied at the Squadron Officer School, the Air Command and Staff College, the Joint Forces Command Advanced Warfighting School, the Air War College, the Keenan-Flagler Enterprise Leadership School, and the Naval War College. General Boswell's distinguished military career encompassed operational tours flying the B-1B, B-52, RC-135, and E-6B aircraft, and he accumulated more than 4,900 flight hours, including over 500 combat hours in Southwest Asia, the Balkans, and the Horn of Africa.

South Dakotans were fortunate to have General Boswell fulfill five separate military assignments at Ellsworth Air Force Base, serving as assistant director of operations for the 77th Bomb Squadron from 1999 to 2002, director of operations for the 37th Bomb Squadron from 2007 to 2008, commander of the 28th Operations Support Squadron from 2008 to 2010, vice commander of the 28th Bomb Wing from 2012 to 2014, and commander of the 28th Bomb Wing from 2015 to 2017.

During his assignments at Ellsworth AFB, General Boswell developed a culture of putting the airmen first, and he engaged actively in partnerships with civilian leadership in Rapid City and other Black Hills communities to improve the quality of life for those in uniform and their families. In addition, as commander of the 28th Operations Support Squadron, General Boswell was instrumental in advancing the expansion of the Powder River Training Complex. The expanded air space rep-

resents the largest military operations area in the lower 48 States, spanning the skies over North Dakota and South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming. This expansive training airspace allows Air Force pilots and crews to perform the critical training they need in conditions that closely resemble combat missions.

General Boswell's final assignment for the Air Force was serving as the director of manpower, organization, and resources. He led the management and oversight of the Air Force's manpower enterprise, which encompasses more than 694,000 total force personnel and the programming of more than \$47 billion in annual funding.

General Boswell has received several prestigious awards for his outstanding military service, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with two oakleaf clusters, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three oakleaf clusters, and the Air Medal with two oakleaf clusters.

We are thrilled that General Boswell has chosen to retire in the Black Hills of South Dakota, where he will have plenty of opportunities to dedicate more time to hunting. I join all South Dakotans in extending our congratulations to General Boswell upon his retirement and for his outstanding military career.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 22-28, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Australia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$385 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan